LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Original): A method for dissolving a measured quantity of a solute in a solvent comprising the steps of:

combining a tracer with a solute in known proportions to form a mixture, the tracer being capable of increasing the turbidity of a solvent in proportion to the concentration of the solute dissolved in the solvent;

providing a container for receiving the mixture and a solvent;

introducing the solvent and the mixture into the container; and,

stirring the solvent until the turbidity thereof reaches a predetermined level.

Claim 2 (Original): The method according to claim 1 wherein the tracer and the solute are finely divided solids both being capable of dissolving in the solvent.

Claim 3 (Amended): The method according to claim 1 wherein the tracer is selected from the group consisting of: ~~IMP,~~ insoluble metaphosphate, zeolite, sodium sulfate, calcium silicate, calcium phosphate, dibasic calcium phosphate, tribasic phosphate, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Original): The method according to claim 1 wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of: water, ethanol, methanol, isoproponol, and glycol ether.

Claim 6 (Original): The method according to claim 1 wherein the amount of the mixture introduced to the container is sufficient to saturate the solvent.

Claim 7 (Original): The method according to claim 1 wherein the stirring step further includes:

directing a beam of light through the solvent to a photodetector; and,

converting the light received by the photodetector into a turbidity level.

Claim 8 (Original): A method for dissolving a measured quantity of a solute in a solvent comprising the steps of:

combining a tracer with a solute in known proportions to form a mixture, the tracer being capable of increasing the turbidity of a solvent in proportion to the concentration of the solute dissolved in the solvent;

providing a container for receiving the mixture and a solvent;

providing a turbidimeter coupled with the container;

introducing the solvent and the mixture into the container;

exposing the turbidimeter to said solvent so as to measure the turbidity of the solvent; and,

stirring the solvent until the turbidity thereof, as measured by the turbidimeter, reaches a predetermined level.

Claim 9 (Original): The method according to claim 8 wherein the exposing step further includes:

directing a beam of light through the solvent to a photodetector being part of the turbidimeter; and,

converting the light received by the photodetector into a turbidity level.

Claim 10 (Original): A method for producing a liquid detergent comprising the steps of:

combining a tracer with an inorganic alkaline builder in known proportions to form a mixture, the tracer being capable of increasing the turbidity of water in proportion to the concentration of the inorganic alkaline builder dissolved in the water;

providing a container for receiving the mixture and water;

providing a turbidimeter coupled with the container;

introducing water and the mixture into the container;

exposing the turbidimeter to the water in the container so as to measure the turbidity of the water in the container;

stirring the water in the container until the turbidity thereof, as measured by the turbidimeter, reaches a predetermined level; and,

drawing turbid water from the container and combining the turbid water with a surfactant.

Claim 11 (Original): The method according to claim 10 wherein the exposing step further includes:

directing a beam of light through the solvent to a photodetector being part of the turbidimeter; and,

converting the light received by the photodetector into a turbidity level.

Claim 12 (Amended) The method according to claim 10 wherein the tracer is selected from the group consisting of: ~~IMP,~~ <u>insoluble metaphosphate,</u> zeolite, sodium sulfate, calcium silicate, calcium phosphate, dibasic calcium phosphate, tribasic phosphate, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)